

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 04282 241325Z

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ACTION IO-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 4282

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, IS, LI

SUBJ: PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S STATEMENT OPPOSING SUSPENSION OR  
EXPULSION ISRAEL FROM UN

1. IN HIS WRITTEN TOAST AT DINNER ON JULY 23 FOR KING MOSHOESHOE  
II OF LESOTHO, PRESIDENT TOLBERT SAID:

QTE. AS A FOUNDATION MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, LIBERIA  
WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY ARBITRARY ACTION AIMED AT DESTROYING OR  
TENDING TO MINIMIZE THE EFFICACY OF, OR SUBVERT THE UNITED  
NATIONS. WE ARE DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO WANTON AGGRESSION,  
AS OUR HISTORY BEARS OUT. WE HAVE CHOSEN A REASONABLE, RE-  
SPONSIBLE AND CONSISTENT PATH TO NATIONAL EXISTENCE AND THIS  
WE INTEND TO MAINTAIN.

THE RECORD OF OUR MEMBERSHIP OF ALL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
WILL SHOW THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS ATTACHED EXTREME IMPORTANCE TO  
DIRECT COMMUNICATION, CONSULTATION AND DISCUSSION SO AS TO  
OCCASION HARMONY AND COOPERATION AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE  
WORLD EVEN ON BURNING INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS OUR CONVICTION THAT THE EXPULSION OF  
THE STATE OF ISRAEL FROM THE UNITED NATIONS, AS IS BEING  
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PAGE 02 MONROV 04282 241325Z

SUGGESTED IN CERTAIN QUARTERS, AS A MEANS OF SOLVING THE EXISTING

PROBLEM IN THAT WORLD BODY CAUSED BY ISRAEL'S INTRANSIGENT ACTION, WILL ONLY CREATE MORE INTRICATE PROBLEMS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SOLVE; AND TO US IT SEEMS USELESS TO SOLVE ONE PROBLEM OF A PRESENT LESSER MAGNITUDE BY CREATING ANOTHER OF AN EQUALLY GREAT OR EVEN GREATER MAGNITUDE.

OUR WORLD EMBRACES A FAMILY OF NATIONS THAT SHOULD CONTINUE TO WORK CONSISTENTLY TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL OF ITS MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, IT SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED A STRANGE PHENOMENUM FOR A MEMBER OF THIS FAMILY TO BECOME DISAGREEABLE, OBSTINATE OR EVEN RECALCITRANT AT TIMES.

BUT WHENEVER THIS HAPPENS, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT THE SOLUTION WHICH WILL BEST SERVE THE INTEREST OF THE FAMILY IS NOT TO EXPEL SUCH A ONE FROM THE FAMILY FOLD. INSTEAD, EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE CONCERTEDLY MADE BY ALL IN A POSITIVE, CONSCIENTIOUS AND CONSISTENT MANNER TO ACHIEVE A GENERALLY DESIRABLE AND ACCEPTABLE CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE AND ACTION OF THE OFFENDING MEMBER.

IF WE ARE TO DEVELOP A WHOLESOME FUNCTIONING WORLD SOCIETY, WE MUST ENCOURAGE TOGETHERNESS AND NOT SEPARATION, CONSULTATION AND NOT CONFRONTATION, UNITY NOT DEVIVISENESS, AND CONCILIATION AND NOT RANCOR AMONG THE NATIONS OF OUR ONE WORLD. UNQTE.

2. AFTER DINNER I CONGRATULATED PRESIDENT TOLBERT ON HIS TOAST AND IN PARTICULAR THE STATEMENT ON ISRAEL. I NOTED THAT HE WAS TO MY KNOWLEDGE THE FIRST AFRICAN LEADER TO SPEAK DIRECTLY AND FRANKLY ON THIS ISSUE. PRESIDENT TOLBERT RESPONDED THAT NOT ONLY HAD LIBERIA BEEN A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE UN BUT HAD ALSO BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING ISRAEL INTO THE UN. HE BELIEVED CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES SHOULD BE FOLLOWED WITHIN THE UN ORGANIZATIONS. HE ADDED THAT IT IS A SIMPLE EXERCISE IN LOGIC THAT YOU SHOULD NOT TRY TO SOLVE A SMALL PROBLEM BY CREATING A LARGER ONE. HE SAID HE FELT STRONGLY ON THE ISRAEL ISSUE AND BELIEVED IT WAS ABOUT TIME THAT SOME OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS SPOKE FORTHRIGHTLY ON IT. I NOTED THAT SECRETARY'S SPEECH AT MILWAUKEE HAD DEALT WITH THIS ISSUE AMONG OTHER ISSUES RELATING TO THE UN WHICH I WOULD BE DISCUSSING WITH THE ACTING FONMIN. I WOULD SEND THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO HIM. HE SAID HE  
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PAGE 03 MONROV 04282 241325Z

WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH. I ADDED THAT I FELT SURE THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME HIS STATEMENT. (DURING THE MORNING OF JULY 23 THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR HAD HANDED TO THE ACTING FONMIN A STRONGLY WORDED NOTE POINTING OUT THE DANGERS OF A MOVE IN THE OAU OR OTHER FORA LOOKING TO THE SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN BODIES.)

3. I BELIEVE THAT TOLBERT'S STATEMENT WILL BE MOST HELPFUL AS WE

APPROACH UNGA. DEPARTMENT MIGHT CONSIDER HAVING SECRETARY TAKE  
SPECIAL NOTE OF TOLBERT'S STATEMENT BY SENDING SHORT PERSONAL  
MESSAGE.  
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